

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Welch et al.  
Serial No.: 09/889,645  
Filed: January 24, 2002  
For: TREATING PROTEIN-CONTAINING LIQUIDS

Confirmation No. 8639  
Group Art Unit: 1648  
Examiner: Agnieszka Boesen

Date: December 7, 2011

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
RESPONSIVE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 7, 2011**

Sir/Madam:

Applicant provides the present Amendment and Request for Continued Examination (RCE) to address the issues raised in the Office Action dated June 7, 2011.

It is not believed that any fee(s), including fees for additional claims, are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this submission. In the event, however, that any requests, petitions or extensions of time for the accompanying response are required to prevent abandonment of this application, Applicant submits that such an extension is also hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and/or a request be granted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.114. Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this submission may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220, or any overpayment may be credited to the same.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this document.